

**UNEMPLOYMENT
INSURANCE
AGENCY**

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Extended Benefits in Michigan

During periods of high unemployment in a state, Extended Benefits (EB) may become available to workers who have exhausted their regular state unemployment insurance benefits as well as most other state and federal unemployment insurance benefits.

Benefits payable through EB

The basic EB program provides up to half the number of weeks that a person received in regular UI benefits to a maximum of 13 weeks. The program's weekly benefit amount is the same as the individual received for regular state unemployment insurance.

What triggers EB?

Whether EB triggers on or not is determined by a calculation called the **insured unemployment rate (IUR)**. The IUR is *not* the same as the **total unemployment rate (TUR)**, which reports the total number of unemployed workers in the state's work force. The IUR is a 13-week moving average of UI continued weeks claimed divided by insured employment. In order for EB to trigger "on," the state's IUR must be greater than or equal to 5.0%, and the current IUR must be 20% higher than the average for the last two years.

Once the state triggers "on," the program remains in effect for at least 13 weeks and potentially eligible unemployed workers are notified that they may be entitled to EB.

Michigan now meets the EB trigger level

During the week of January 10, 2009, Michigan's IUR surpassed 5.0 % and was 42% higher than same period for the prior two years. The week ending January 31, 2009, was the first week for which EB was payable. To be eligible for EB, workers must be unemployed or underemployed and have a benefit year ending on or after January 31, 2009.

Benefit costs are shared 50/50 between the federal government and the state. The state's share comes from its UI trust fund and is then charged on a prorated basis back to the employer(s). Government employers are charged 100 percent for EB.

Work Search is required

Individuals receiving EB must fulfill a stringent work search requirement in order to receive benefits and must list the employers contacted each week. As evidence of their work search, workers must supply the names of employers they have contacted over the prior two weeks, the name of the individual they contacted at each business, their method of contact, type of work they sought, and the results of their contact.

DELEG is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids, services and other reasonable accommodations are available upon request to individuals with disabilities



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